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1642

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Jürgen Behrens et al.

Serial Number: 09/587,574

Group Art Unit: 1642

Filed: June 5, 2000

Examiner: N. A. Davis

For: CONDUCTINE PROTEIN AND A RELATED AGENT FOR DIAGNOSING  
AND TREATING ILLNESSES

Attorney Docket No. 0107-026

RECEIVED

MAR - 5 2002

Commissioner of Patents  
Washington DC 20231

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

AMENDMENT

In response to the Office letter mailed on November 26, 2001, please amend the  
claims as follows:

33. (Amended) Substantially pure conductin, its variations, mutants and parts  
thereof.

34. (Amended) The substantially pure conductin of claim 33 of the amino acid  
sequence 1 to 840 of Sequence ID No. 1 and Fig. 1.

REMARKS

Claims 33-34 are in the application. The amendments presented above are  
believed to overcome the Examiner's claim objections. Reconsideration and withdrawal  
of the outstanding rejections is requested.

Applicants submit that the specification of the application does disclose a well-  
established utility and exemplifies a biological activity for the polypeptide so that the  
utility would be well established. Page 2 of the specification discloses that conductin  
regulates  $\beta$ -catenine function and its interaction with Adenomatosis Polyposis Coli  
(APC) by binding to  $\beta$ -catenine leading to its cytoplasmic breakdown. Complexes of  $\beta$ -  
catenine and HMG transcription factor TCF-4 are disclosed to be responsible for the  
transformation of cells found in colon cancer. Page 3 of the specification directs one of